

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. 2455-4581US1 (ATT-113513)

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment and the following discussion, the Applicant submits that none of the claims now pending in the application is unpatentable under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, 35 U.S.C. §102, or 35 U.S.C. §103. Thus, the Applicant believes that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-13 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-13 in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. In response, the Applicant has canceled claims 1, 10, and 12, and has amended independent claims 2, 11, and 13. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 11, and 13 are now patentable under 35 U.S.C. §112. Consequently, the Applicant submits that claims 3-9, which depend from claim 2, are similarly patentable under 35 U.S.C. §112 and respectfully requests that the rejection to claims 2-9, 11, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

II. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102 AND 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-10, and 12 in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over the Chaum patent (U.S. Patent 4,947,430, issued August 7, 1990).

However, the Examiner concluded that claims 2, 11, and 13 would be allowable subject matter if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and included all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowable subject matter with respect to these claims.

In response, the Applicant has amended claims 2, 11, and 13 to include the allowable subject matter per the Examiner's suggestions. Consequently, the Applicant submits that claims 2, 11, and 13 are now patentable under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103.

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Since amended claims 3-9 depend directly from claim 2 and recite additional features thereof, the Applicant submits that claims 3-9 are fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 and are patentable thereunder.

III. ADDITION OF NEW CLAIMS 14-23

The Applicant has added new dependent claims 14-23. Claims 14-18 depend from independent claim 11 and claims 19-23 depend from independent claim 13. These two sets of dependent claims are similar to dependent claims 3-4 and 7-9 except for that these claims respectively depend from a system and an article of manufacture (claimed in independent claims 11 and 13) as opposed to a method (as set forth in claim 2).


IV. CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicant submits that all of these claims now fully satisfy the requirement of 35 U.S.C. §102, §103, and §112. Consequently, the Applicant believes that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring the issuance of a final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Kin-Wah Tong, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

1/24/05
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